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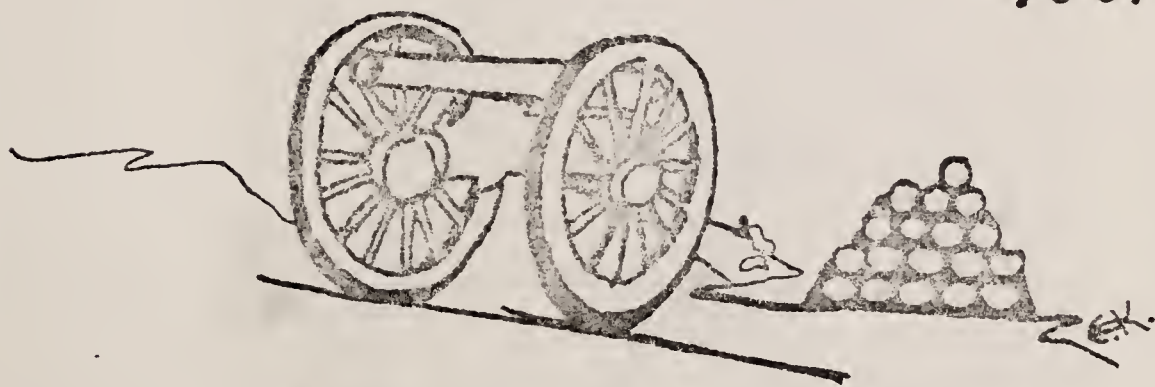
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Civil War



LETTERS HOME

BY

Sgt. Thomas Jefferson Pierce

WHO

Enlisted 13 August 1862, Wyoming, Illinois, Company E, 105 Regiment, of the Illinois Volunteers of the Union Army of the United States of America; came to his death in line of duty, 3 March 1864, Hospital #11, Nashville, Tenn.

A L S O

A R O S T E R O F D E S C E N D A N T S

O F

Charles and Catharine Pierce

Compiled By:

ELLEN K. KORBITZ

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1900

AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OF THE

Series IV: Letters Home
and
Roster of Pierce Descendants

'Letters Home' was written to commemorate the Civil War between the Northern and Southern States of the U.S. (1861-5) as well as the coming of the Centennial Celebration of that heroic time ... and honor the memory of Jeff Pierce.

E.K.K.

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ELLEN K. KORBITZ



T. Jeff Pierce
(1836-1864)

TWENTY-EIGHT
 LETTERS ON THE CIVIL WAR

(as copied from the original packet of historical letters)

(1)

4 Sept 1862
 Camp Fuller

Sister Emm,

I suppose you would like to know how we are getting along a sold-
 iering at this place. Well, we are doing it up! We were mustered
 in the Regiment, yesterday, and are all in a large stone building
 west of the railroad and have good quarters. I am in the third
 tier of bunks, and am sitting crosslegged in it writing on a
 peach box. We have gay times all the time. I have been all of
 the forenoon drilling a squad of soldiers, as First Sergeant of
 the Co.. I was down to see Ryan's Co.. He is Colonel of the Regt.,
 and they are under marching orders to leave as soon as they get
 their clothing and arms; ours will leave next. I shall come home
 next week, I think, if we don't leave before then. I can't write
 they keep up such a noise. There's two fiddlers, and about 40 a
 dancing, some hollering, some playing cards. I must close for we
 have marching orders this afternoon to go to Louisville, Kentucky.
 I will write again as soon as I can.

/s/ J. Pierce

(2)

20 Sept 1862
 Camp Douglas

Parents, Brothers and Sisters,

Your letter came to hand this noon and I was very glad to hear
 from you once again. We are all having good times here. Don't
 have much to do, any of us, only to stand guard. The most I have
 done since I have been in Camp is to write and draw rations for
 the Co.. Until our clerk come, I wrote all the passes for to go to
 town. Some of the boys are a going to town all the time. I just
 came from town, got your letter and set-down to reply. I have the
 least to do now that I have ever had to do. Lot of days that I
 don't do anything but smoke and eat as I have to do something or
 I would get so lazy that I could not move. Perhaps you would like
 to know what I have to eat. We have nice bread, fresh beef, salt
 pork, potatoes, rice, coffee, tea, sugar, hard crackers, beans
 and some other things besides. All that I have to do is to take a
 squad of men to do anything that I want. I have a tent for all

the boys from Paw Paw, and two or three more. We are not in the old Camp Douglas, but we are at Cottage Grove about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the old camp in the prettiest place in the state of Illinois, so all the people say that have been here. We have ten companies all of which are full or nearly so. We are to receive the rest of our pay this evening, so the Capt. says. We have the best Capt. in America! I had to take a lot of men up to old Camp Douglas day before yesterday to guard the rats and lice and a few prisoners. The rats and lice are plenty, and I was homesick while I stayed at that place that day! The rats came out on dress parade in full force about sundown. Camp Douglas is the filthiest place that I ever saw - the maggots fairly climb over the ground. We are going to 'Secessia' in a few days. We have orders to leave; I tried to get a furlough home last night, but couldn't on account of our leaving. Give my love to all friends and write soon. Good-bye to all. Direct as before.

/s/ Thos J Pierce

(3)

20 Oct 1862

Frankfort

Tuck,

Well, I received a letter from you from Emm, Saturday. Glad to hear from you all and to hear that you were all well. I am well, and so is the most of the Co.. I will give names of those from there that are sick: Smith, Griffith and Albert Davis. Doc Good-years was sick but better now. We took 108 'butternuts' to Louisville, Tuesday for parole and got back to this place Thurs. noon. We went and come on the cars. I tell you they were a sorry looking set of chaps, some of them almost barefoot, naked, lousy and dirty. I could hardly stand it to bring them in. I tell you that this is a hard looking country. Everything is destroyed and lot of the houses are empty. The 'Secesh' left them in a hurry. Everything is very high and scarce at this place. They are getting cheaper as we have the control of things. The night we came, the rebels tried to tear-up the bridge and did tear up part of it. Our Cavalry came in and went at them and killed 12, and wounded a good many more. They left in a hurry for tall timber. The Sat. before, they burned the railroad bridge and tore-up the track all along. The track is fixed and the cars run from this place to Louisville daily. Coffee was 80¢ per lb., sugar 35¢ per lb., salt \$10 a barrel, whiskey \$3 per gallon, and other things in proportion. I got breakfast for myself and another sick man

The first part of the book is devoted to a general
introduction of the subject. The author then
presents a detailed account of the history of the
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which have been advanced to explain the
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concise style, and is well illustrated with
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the other morning. It cost me \$1.85 and ain't that some? I have been arm-picked twice since I have been here, and then we live bully I tell you. We have to eat coffee, sugar, bacon, hard bread and sometime we have fresh beef but not very often. Night before last, we were called up at 12 o'clock to march 14 miles on double-quick, to cut off the retreat of some Cavalry that had taken Lexington, but run like devils when our men come in sight of them. So we started, run part of the way and walked the rest of the way as fast as we could go and got to the place just at daylight. But the Rebs got there first and went like sixty on our advances and took 25 of them. They look hard I tell you. We got back last night - we marched 28 miles yesterday. I think the war is almost over from all accounts, and the people a good many think so, too. If they would give us a chance, we would lick them like thunder in less than no time. This side is made of the best stuff, so guess that I am proud even if as poor-stuff as any, and I think I can face the Rebels. We're all brought up in battle order, yesterday, and ordered to load our guns. The Col. took out his glass and looked all around to see if he could see any of the 'butter-nuts' but could not see any of them. I never felt better then when I was a loading my gun, but was mad when I found that they had got ahead of us - so were the rest of the Regt., too. There were 3 Regts. of us, one Battery of artillery and 300 Cavalry. So you see we could give them 'Hail, Columbia!'

/s/ J. Pierce

(4)

13 November 1862
Scottsville

Sister Emily,

As we got to this place last night, I shall write a few lines this morning. We left Bowling Green the 11th, was 2 days on the march to this place. We came on a cross road here and some of it was good, some hard and very hilly in parts. The people are the hardest looking that I ever saw in my life. I think that they don't know as much as the negroes do. They have never been anywhere - always lived in the woods. It is very poor country and they can hardly get a living. All along the Rebels could not stay here, so they immigrated to Tennessee. Yesterday, it rained all day on the men all the way. Myself and another fellow went out to get something to eat, better than we had along if we could find it. So we set-off and got about 3 miles from the road in the woods. Couldn't find any house, so we started to go toward the road again. The first house we come to was a church out in the

woods a long ways from any house. We went up to the door, it was locked so we could not get into it. We tried to push the door in could not do it so left it. We forgot our keys (we have a bunch of 14 keys to open any door). Well, we left the church and went on in search. By and by we came on a plantation so up we went to find the house. Had to look some time for it and when we did its door was shut and the folks gone. So we took out our pistols and made for the door not knowing what was in it. We pushed it open and went in - he looked and I stood guard. He found some corn bread and dried apples and took all we want. I found the cream jar and drank all I could and he did the same and then took a canteen full of it along with us to put in coffee last night for supper. I got a coffee pot and tin pail and set them down and come off and forgot them....This is a nice little town here, are encamped on a nice meadow about 40 rods from the court house. We are about 10 miles from the Tennessee line. I do not know how long we will stay at this place. The Col. says that we would stay here 2 or 3 months but will not - says for certain it is just as the General orders! It is nice warm weather here all the time, tho' cool nights. Well, Emm, I have just been to dinner. Smith made some coffee for him and me. We had some raw ham, hard crackers and onions and coffee - that was our dinner and we took lots of it, too. We are both writing to Paw Paw. Jake has got a letter written and gone to put it in the box. It is almost Batallion drill-time and I must write fast. The boys are all well and hearty but Doc Goodyear. He is in Bowlihg Green sick with the measles, and so is Firmen. Well, Emm, when you write again, tell me how many there are going to school, who they are, etc. I will now write to Tuck a few lines.

Well Tuck, I am bustin' hearty, and take all the rations that I can get to eat. Haven't seen any 'Secesh' to fire at nor any of 'sneaks pups' either. I am as happy as a rat who prays. Got 4 geese and 4 ducks last night and they were cooked in the camp today. Peskins and Jake are lying flat on their bellies and grunting cause they ate too much. Perkins got to be Corporal. Keep your nose clean and get your whiskers growing and we will take a ride when I come back. Direct as you have always and write as soon as you can. Love to all. Eat some beef for me.

/s/ Jeff Pierce

(5)

27 November 1862
Gallatin

Brothers, Sisters and Parents,

I once more sit-down to write a few lines to you and to let you

know that I am still on the move down in 'Seceshdom'. We are now in Tennessee and have stopped here for a day or two and then we shall start for Nashville. We are on a long march of about 500 miles and if we don't get shot, we will make the riffle, too. We are in Secesh for earnest now - about every house is Rebel. Can't get anything we want without taking it without leave or paying the most awful high price for it. We chose the first way. Night before last, we camped in the gully between the mountains at a tannery and flour company. Got in front of the proprietors house and we made our camp by the side of the tannery. Took all of his fodder for to lay on and burned up his tan bark for to cook our suppers and breakfasts. He, being a Secesh, left that afternoon with his family for fear that we would punish him for his sentiments. So part of us took possession of the house and run it to destruction. Ate up all the sweet potatoes, preserves and butters, slept on his beds and took every thing that was worth anything. I got a lot of pills and Baby Cordial (probably should have been blackberry Cordial), and gave around to the sick and afflicted, and a nice brush and a side saddle and was going to send it up to you but could not...This is a nice place and the country around is nice, too. But the folks are on the wrong side of the question. Almost all of the people have left this town and gone where the rest of the fools are...The Col. told me yesterday that I might get me a horse if I wanted to and I am going to get one the finest that is to be had. The Rebs have all the good horses and the rest are so poor that they are not worth taking. This is the nicest country that I have seen since I left Illinois. But the folks have no more Union about them then - - - ,but I guess we will make them come to time yet. After the first of Jan., if they don't come in, we will make them think that there is a God in Israel. The General told us that we were going until we found the Rebs, but how far we have got to go to do that I can't tell. You wanted to know if I wouldn't like to take a ride in your carriage. What kind is it? I dreamed that it was an old second hand one and a regular stone boat! ha I can't write anymore for my head aches so that I can hardly see. The boys are all well and hearty but Firmen. I have not heard from him as he is a good ways from us now Doc Goodyear is dead. No more. Love to all of you and write soon. Direct to: Thos. J. Pierce, Bowling Green, Ky., Co. E - 105 Regt. Ill. Vols., Wards Brigade, Dumonts Division in the field, and it will come to me a great deal sooner.

/s/ Jefferson Pierce

8 December 1862
Gallatin

Sister Emily,

I received your letter this morning and I was glad to hear from you once more, I tell you, for I had looked for one for a long time. I thought that I would not write to you again until I got a letter from someone at home.

9 December

I shall commence once again to write this morning for just as I got to writing yesterday I was called away on business so that I could not finish my letter. Our Regt. had to work last night on the fortification. So I took our Company up to work and the boys worked like sixty. I did not have to work, but I wanted the name of helping to build that fort, so I took the shovel and loaded a wheelbarrow and wheeled it up on the parapet. I worked all the time a wheeling dirt so did all the rest of those that charge of the men. It is a nice constructed thing too, I tell you. Well Emm, Jake made breakfast this morning. We had crackers and shoe-laces. Didn't feel very hungry so did not have much of a variety.

But I don't want you to think that we don't have nothing to eat for we have lots to eat. We have lots of meal, have had mush and sugar and molasses until I have got tired and made ponecakes and a variety of other dishes. We have fresh pork, mutton and veal. Our Co. has had lots of these goodies. Three others and I went out the other night after something so we went about 1½ miles foraging. Went to a Secesh house and took some of her things to eat. The first thing that we got hold of was a fine fat calf about 6 months old. We caught the calf and downed it and held it until its throat was cut and bled. Then we dressed it and took it back to camp. Had lots of feasts from it; we have all the fresh that we want. I went to another tent to take dinner yesterday and had chicken and soup. The way we get our meal, we go to the corn field and husk and shell the corn. Then take it to mill and get it ground. The way things have to suffer is a crime, I tell you! There is not a fence in sight of our camp - no chickens, turkeys, or geese in hearing of our camp. I expect that before you get this we shall have a battle from some of the Rebs in this part. Night before last, we were ordered to get ready to march at a moments notice for a fight. The 104th had a fight at Nashville, day before yesterday and all taken prisoners. They say there were 400 taken. Last night, we were ordered to get ready and sleep on our arms, also this morning the report in

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camp that there's 210,000 Rebs about 8 miles from us and that their pickets would not let our ambulances pass them. How true it is I can't say. One thing is certain, we shall have a brush before long somewhere around this place. Oh, it is awful to see the sick in the hospitals here or any other post! It would make anyone sick of a soldier's life. I don't go in so as to get my stomach turned or discuss the great cause but one thing is certain that if I get sick I am a coming home for I would rather die than go in one of the hospitals. We have lost 9 of our company and 2 more are almost dead. The balance are getting along quite smart. All the boys are well from that place. Charlie is as fat as a bear. Smith is the fleshiest that I ever saw him in my life. I will tell you how our tent is fixed and how many that we have in it. Is a wall tent about 10 ft. square with a flap in one end for a door. In one corner we have a fireplace built by Pierce, Griffith, and Ostrander. In the other corner is a gun rack and ration corner and the other side is used for our beds and parlor and setting-room. We have a cupboard over our fireplace, a pole up in the roof to hang the various articles that we don't want to use all the time. It has been very cold here for 3 or 4 days and the ground has been covered with snow. The boys go a shivering around as though they were in Ill. instead of being in Dixie Land.....I suppose you had good time at Whitesides a giving thanks and at home eating venison. Don't it make you sick to eat so much of it, and do you have it every meal? ha We have goodies every meal down here. The boys are gone out to shoot off their guns to clean them out to get ready for the fight whenever it comes. I expect it will come-off pretty soon. I am very tired for have been kept awake 2 nights to be ready to start for the scene of action. You can find out more about the outfit than I can tell you. Our First Lt. is at home now sick and will remain at home several weeks - Lt. Mart Allen. If I thought that we were going to stay here for any length of time, I would send home for some things that I should like to have here to use. Love to all of the family and all of my friends.

/s/ Jefferson Pierce

(7)

29 January 1863

Samuel Hill

Sister Enn,

I received the letter that you, Eliza and Phil wrote this morning, so glad to hear from you all once more for it has been a long time since I have heard from any of you. But must say that

I am sorry to hear that you failed in the speaking of your piece before that large audience. Try and do better next time! I had a letter from Aunt Mary yesterday, the first in six weeks. It has been cold and stormy here for the last 3 weeks and has snowed a good deal, too. It is now very muddy, so much so that it is hardly passable for teams or troops either. We are having easy time here now, don't have much of anything to do. I am still a Commissary and am going to try and get in the QM Dept. I think that my sight is good for the same. The Col. is trying to get this Regt. transferred to another Division. I guess he will make it out, too. If he does, then we shall have to go in front of the whole Army. I hope he will for I want to see some of the 'elephant' Sam Merwin has seen. He was detailed as a pioneer, was in the late BATTLE OF MURFREESBOROUGH and saw the whole thing! The rest of us want to get ready and go to see the same kind of sport. I for one do but don't know but that I shall be the first one to run out of the Company. We have plenty to eat and drink and wear, but have not had any pay yet. I don't want any money yet for 4 or 5 months. We have hop yeast bread to eat every day and make it ourselves. I make fried cakes and short cakes once and awhile, and can get good scorches on them! ha Smith, he has baked some bread today and Jake is a fixing to bake some beans. We have a good puncheon floor in our tent and one of the best fireplaces that I ever saw, keeps a fire all night. Feel as fine as a gate post, too. Am as fat as a bear, can eat all that I see but would like to have some butter for all of that. Seems that you are a having good times at home now. Well, enjoy yourselves the best that you can. Smith says that we can beat the old one on what we undertake to do. Oh! Who would not be a soldier. I'd sell my shirt to be a soldier if I could not be one any other way. Jake says that he is getting poor - he only weighs 200 lbs. He is now promoted to 5th Sergeant and Smith to Corporal and we have to scratch the tent all over with a fine comb every morning to fine Corp. Griffith. Smith and I have gone into manufacturing. ha We have made a lot of forks to eat with. You must make that new dress and go to Church every Sunday. Love to all of the family. I will write to Phil in a few days. Send me some more postage stamps in your next letter for they are all the change that I can get. They are very scarce. Write soon. Direct as usual.

Jeff Pierce

15 February 1863
Gallatin, Tennessee

Brothers - Everett and Philip,

As I promised to write to Phil, I will now write a letter to you both and to all the rest of the family. I will keep writing to you until I get an answer from some that I have written for I have not had but one letter from home since December 8.. So you can see that I don't get many to read and only 3 from every one up in that part up to the present time. We are all well as common, and have not had anymore die in our Company but a few are sick. We were hurried here mighty fast 2 wks. ago tonight as the Rebels had crossed the river and were marching on Gallatin. We were filed in a large building in order about 10 o'clock at night and lay down on our arms so that if we were needed we could get-up in a hurry and pitch in. But we all slept soundly until morning and then got-up and shook the dust from our feet and our blankets and pack-them up. The Rebs heard that we had come in so they went around the place. So about 10 o'clock this morning we started up to the spot where we now are camped. It is the nicest camping ground that I ever saw. The camp is on a knoll in a sugar maple orchard with nice green sod all around us and a good spring of water close by. We are about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from town. We have lots of niggers in camp to do the hard work as soon as they get around to it. There is one old Buck that is almost as big as old Flagg. He plays the banjo and the rest dance. We have a regular theater every night. It would make you laugh to see the nigs dance and to hear the old Buck sing! His lips are or weigh about 50 lbs. apiece and they stick out so far that he can't see his feet. We are going to have our arms changed the last of this week. They say that the Paymaster is in town to pay us, but how much? Say, if my pay runs until the 9th of March, it will amount to \$102.00, but I don't expect to get a quarter of that amount. If I get enough to amount to anything, I will send a good part of it home. I want Pop to find out if Lt. Allen has started yet, and if he has not to find out when he is going to start. I want him to go to Griffiths and get me a good heavy pair of French Kipp Boots with good long legs and double soles on with the double sole to come back to the instep - put in 2 rows of pegs and 2 rows of nails clear around both soles and heels and around the toes put 3 rows of nails and a square of nails in the center of the heels. Have them finished-up in good shape so that they won't wear out over this stony pike in this country. It will cost me more shoes than the boots will as they are of no account. Love to all and write

soon. Direct to me: c-o Co. E - 105 Regt. Ills. Vols. ROSECRAN'S ARMY, Ward's Brigade in the field, Nashville, Tennessee. Good afternoon, but don't forget to write. Love to all -

/s/ Jeff Pierce

(9)

25 February 1863
Gallatin, Tennessee

Sister Emily.

I, this morning, take the opportunity of writing a few lines to you and all the rest of the family to let you know how we all are. As for myself, I can't say that I am very well but the rest of the boys are fine and in good spirits. Jake and Smith have gone out on picket this morning and will not be back until tomorrow. John Perkins has to go this afternoon with 4 men on the same road that the 104th were taken. I don't know where. Jake and Smith had 20 men with them. I have had the FEVER for 3 weeks or will be day after tomorrow and have been under the Doctor's care all the time. Taken about a cart load of medicine. I am a good deal better this morning than I have been at all, yet the doc said this morning that I would get along now if I had no pull-back. The head doctor has attended to me all of the time, and would not let no other one prescribe for me as I had got well acquainted with him. He is one of the best men in the world! He said that he would see to me as long as I needed anything, but the way He crams the medicine down me is a caution. Tuck, he has given me lots of that kind that sets teeth on edge and lots of quinine, too. My eyes so sore that I can hardly see how to write they pain me like everything all the time. You can see by the way of my writing that something is up. One of them has been sore for over a month. The other not so long. We will stay at this place and how long we shall stay here I don't know. The prospect is fair to stay all summer. But I may go away in a week that is just as the General sees fit. Sometimes we are ordered to start in the middle of the night. Well Emm, I suppose you, Eliza, both had fine time while our folks were gone to Demint. Well, I like to see everyone enjoy themselves and I am really glad to think that mother can find time to go a visiting. Now one word to father. That is this - don't listen to those cursed Democrats about their peace compromise and any man that will join their party is one of the meanest of traitors. Have not the Rebels been offered everything that is fair? They say they won't unite with the New England States on any terms, but we can whip them to it. The taxes is the great hobby in the North now. Were your taxes \$25 more than

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last years? If not, and if they were, grain and all kinds of produce fetches enough more so that no one ought to grumble. Stick to the Republicans. I have come into the Army to help put down this Rebellion and I am willing to stay 10 years rather than to listen to any compromise from anyone. I hope that none will be accepted by the President. We are making steady and sure inroads in their domains and there is going to be a large battle fought again near MURFREESBOROUGH as soon as the roads will admit of the troops moving. ROSECRANS Has a tremendously large ARMY and will give them 'Hail, Columbia' when he gets at them. Troops are a going down all the time to reinforce him, besides 26,000 came from the Potomac to help him. He has troops strung about 30 miles as thick as the tents can stand along the road so I have been informed! We have VICKSBURG and the report came in last night that CHARLESTON was taken! Oh! I tell you we are going to do it to them and there is no mistake about it either. Now Emm, if you have not sent me any post stamps, I wish you would for I have only 3 remaining. I had to use some change as I couldn't get a bill changed so you would confer a great favor on me to send some. Now about them boots - I wish that Pap would get them made if he has not and made just as I wrote to have them made, as Allen is a coming to the Regt. as he gets able. I suppose that you had a fine time to your examination and exhibition. Suppose you have gained a great deal of knowledge this winter. Hope you will retain it all, too. Love to all the family, chubby and all the rest of the little girls. Write and all must write to me soon. As for Smith's not writing to you he never got any from you. Direct to me: Co. E - 105th Regt. Ills. Vols. ROSECRAN'S ARMY, Ward's Brigade, Nashville, Tennessee. I think they will come straight. Good morning and write soon.

/s/ Jefferson Pierce

(10)

2 March 1863

Gallatin

Sister and Parents,

Feeling tolerably well this afternoon, I will write a few lines to you all once more to let you know how I am feeling. Well, the Doc has broken the fever on me. I stopped taking medicine day before yesterday, but my eyes are very sore. They pained me so much yesterday that I could hardly stand it. I can hardly see any thing today only as I wipe my eyes out and then I can see quite plain for a time until they get full of matter and then everything is like a blur to me. Although I don't have anything

(10)

much to do, the boys are very kind to me. They won't let me go out to do anything nor not much in the tent, but I do some of the cooking. I have cooked one mess of mutton and two of chickens and baked 3 fine big cakes in a bake kettle almost as large as a 5 qt. milk pail and the boys say that they were bully good! Maybe you would like to know what I made said cakes of and how I made them. ha Well, I will give you a recipe for to make them. - 4 eggs well beaten, 1 pint cup $\frac{3}{4}$ full of sugar, about a teacup and a half full of shortening, 2 qts. of flour and warm water to mix it with, soda to rise it, and nutmeg to season it and a little salt. This is called the ARMY CAKE, and I got up the receipt myself! I can beat the gents a cooking chickens allowing me to be the judge. The boys are all well, and Smith and Jake send their respects to you, Emm. Jake also says give my best wishes to your Dad and tell him I should like to see him. The Captain has just come in and is a joking us - he is great on joking, I tell you, but he is a bully good man. I will tell you what I would like you to do if it is not too much trouble to you. That is this. If Lt. Allen has not started back and you have not taken my boots over to him, that you would pack me some butter and send it to me, and if you could get some copper cans to pack it in and seal it up tight. It would come better than is if he will bring it for me and I guess he will for he is an accommodating person. To the reason that I send for it is this. Butter is scarce here and so high that I can't afford to buy much of it and I don't have much of an appetite to eat, and all that I eat I have to buy and pay the highest kind of prices for it. I think that a little good butter would do me some good. So if it would not be too much trouble, I would like to have you send me some if the Lt. will bring it to me. I think I shall come up home on a furlough in June. I have the promise of one then. I don't know when we will get our pay, maybe not, with next pay day today and up to the 15th of the month. But don't think that we will get any money, however I have enough to last me for some time yet unless I have to buy everything that I eat much longer. It is cold here today and it snowed quite hard this forenoon although we have had some fine weather. We have still lots of Niggers in the Regt. and the way they dance and sing every night is a caution. We have lost one more man from our Company. His name is Abram E. Sherrill from Ross Grove. Love to all write soon and direct as I told you in my last. Give all the news - good afternoon.

/s/ Jefferson Pierce

(11)

21 March 1863
Gallatin, Tenn.

Parents, Sisters and Brothers,

Commence once more to write a few lines to you all as I don't get any letters from you. I write so as to keep up with the times. Am in good health again and enjoying myself very well. It is very fine weather here at present and everything is springing forth into life. The boys feel fine and funny - have plenty to eat got lots eggs, bakers bread, fine butter and sugar to match. I am going to have some ham before many days. We are still in our old camp and don't know how long will stay. The Paymaster is here now and is paying-off the troops at this place and will pay off this Regt. on Monday or Tuesday. But I care not risk to send any home for the guerillas attacked the RR so often that there is no security in sending it by express. So I shall keep mine until I get a chance to come home and I think I shall come up sometime this summer. Capt. Terry is starting home tomorrow. He is discharged from the Service on account of ill health. He has waited some days on account of the boys getting their pay. But the Express train was attacked night before last about 15 miles from here at a little town called Michelville, by a band of ruffians and took out all the mail matter and two cars of express matter. Had it all piled up and had just commenced to rob the passengers when the troops from the rank about 4 miles off came up and stopped the devils and captured a lot of them. Some of them got-off. One of them was making off with the mail bag and was halted but would not stop so they shot him and kept the mail bag and loaded up the cuss and the train came on. There has been nothing of any other importance transpire since I last wrote to you. I have sent my warrant up home by the Captain and he will mail it from Shabbona as I directed and stamped it. I bought a nice shot gun to send up to Tuck and Phil, but the Capt. can't carry it home. So I let it go again and am going to get a revolver for them as soon as I can and will fetch it up myself. I think that the war is about over and we shall all be home sometime this summer by the way the Rebs talk now as we get the Southern NEWS every day, and when there is anything of great importance I will send you a copy. Write soon and give all the news. The Capt. is a coming over to your house, and I want you to give him the best you have got to eat and my share too, for he is one of the best men that ever lived. We are going to have some new officers in a few days. Lt. Allen is not very well now, and I don't think he will stay long in the Army. I have nothing

more to write only Jake and Smith send their respects to all of you. Write soon. Direct as usual.

Respectfully yours,
/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

(12)

1 April 1863
Gallatin

Sister Emily,

I sit down to reply to your letter dated March 22, so glad to hear that you all were well at the time of writing. Have not much news to write for Camp life is one thing over and over, so it will be the same thing again only a little variation. Fine weather here, but yesterday it snowed some but not much of any account. The health of the boys from Paw Paw is very good only Ned Goodyear got thrown from his horse, and sprained his ankle so that he can't step on it at all. Otherwise, he is in good health. My eyes are getting well so I can see pretty well, but there is a bunch a coming on my leg about half ways between the knee and ankle. It is on the bone and they all tell me that it is a fever sore and say that they think that I will not be able to march much more. It pains me very much and especially while standing on it, but I am not much afraid of it myself. Do you want to know what I have been busying myself about this morning? In the first place, I helped get breakfast and wash the dishes. Then I went to cutting hair and trimming whiskers and been at it until I commenced to write this letter. Smith went to town to get some flour and butter and Jake is cooking beans for dinner. I am expecting some soft bread up from town so that we all can have some for dinner. Smith has got back but did not get any flour but got 2 lbs. butter and paid \$1. for it. High living that hain't it though? Jake and Smith both send their respects and love to all of you. Charley Newton also sends his to you also. Charley is Corporal now. So Orin Findley had to make tracks, but I think he played smart by going to Chicago and going in the hospital. We all think that there will be a big time down at CHATTANOOGA and think that old 'ROSY' will come out ahead for he has got lots of help there. Gen. Payne, our Post Commander, makes the Rebs get to their happy land of Canaan the way he bears down on them is a caution. I think I shall come home in June, so the turkey will have to live until that time. Give him an extra kernel of corn every day. Give my best respects to Jane Adams; will write her in a few days. I only got the letter that you and she wrote in December, to me a few days

ago. Enclosed in this you will find Miss Oleva Pierce's ring. It is not so good a one as I should of made if my eyes so that I could of seen well. I will send the other two in the next letter and will write it to old Dan Tucker if you know such a person. You can get all the news of him then. I got a letter the other day from Uncle James and one from Uncle Abe Goodwin. They were all well and also one from Aunt Mary Lazarus. Phil, you must make a cake of sugar and keep it for me and eat lots of pancakes for me, too. We expect to get paid tomorrow. I must stop for I have got to see to the rations now. Write soon and give all the news. Love to all of the family and all of my friends if any there be in that part. Direct as usual. From brother Jeff to all - Good-day.

/s/ Jeff Pierce

(13)

10 April 1863

Gallatin, Tennessee

Respected Parents, Brothers and Sisters

Once more sit down to write to let you know how I get along down in the wilderness. I am as well as common so are the rest of boys from Paw Paw. It is fine weather here now and everything that is left looks nice. Peaches look as though there might be a good many of them. We still lay here on our oars, and think that will stay 2 or 3 weeks longer and then for old Rosy and the rest of the boys - to help them in the big plays that are going to be acted out in good earnest. We got our pay yesterday up to the first of March. I got \$95.40 for my pay. I am going to send the most of it home as soon as I get a good chance, not send it by express for the agent charges so much for expressing money from here and yesterday there were 2 trains of cars captured and the cars broken all up and the property carried off by the guerrillas. So that it is not safe for to send money by the RR anyway. The Paymaster said that he thought that he would pay us again the first of May. Then I will get 2 months more pay. I shall have to stop for I am in a hurry. Love to all and excuse the mistakes. Yours in a hurry and write soon.

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

(14)

13 April 1863

Gallatin

Dear Parents, Brothers and Sisters,

A few lines to you partly on business and partly because I have

nothing else to do as I have got through with rations for today. Father, I have sent \$75, seventy-five dollars, by Mr. Kirkpatrick of the town of Clinton, to be left with Mr. Harvey E. Allen of Shabbona, to be paid to you. The money started this morning. It is all in greenbacks. You can get it of Mr. H. E. Allen by giving him a receipt for same. I want you to fix what little money I have left there so that it will draw interest all the time, but so as that I can get it at anytime when I come home, for I think that I and all the rest of the boys will be home in less than 3 months they way things look now. Anyway the Rebs are getting sick of the business! They are getting hard-up for all the most common necessities of life and their money is good for nothing of any account for one dollar of Greenback is worth 4 of Confederate Scrip - right in the heart of the Confederacy. So you can see that Scrip is below par. I wish we had all of them Rebs in a row and sight one of our little cannons and fire at them. Blood and brains would fly some, I guess! Now to write because I want to:- In the first place as to the weather it rains today and rained all day and night yesterday. Our Company was out on the picket yesterday. The little Corp., as they all call Smith, was out with them, too. Well, I have just been up and drew a blouse coat don't it look fine though? I guess it does though:- 4 nice brass buttons on it and a great big pocket in it too. Oh, Smith just come in with one on. He looks as gay as a whet-stone, you had better believe me. We are going to draw a mighty fine hat, too. I will give you the fashion of said hat. It is a beautiful black as stiff as a stove pipe, about 4 ft. tall and in the shape of sugar loaves - lots of room up in the upper story. They are trimmed as follows: looped up at the right side with a small brass plate about the size of your hand, a long cord goes twice around the hat with two big tassels on the end of the same, a big brass bugle in front of the hat and a long feather about 3 ft. long stuck in at the side of said hat. Won't I look gay with one of them hats and little bobtailed coats on? Tuck, I will save you my nice hat to wear on all grand occasions such as Fusileering on Fourth of July. It will make you look as gay as a peacock, too. Jake Ostrander wants me to say to you all that his new blouse coat just comes to the lower end of his back bone. Gay coat that, hain't it? Jake looks mighty fine with his coat on - and looks bad now. He is pining all away to about 200 lbs. mightly sickly he is I tell you. ha The little Corporal is as hearty as a buck. All the fault I find with him is that every morning we have to take a rake to find him... Well, the bugle has just blown for noon, and so I must stop for dinner. - coffee with milk in, bread and butter, molasses, onions and fried pork. Fine dinner

that!....Been to dinner, feel much better now. Oh Emm, I had an invitation to go and see a nice Secesh girl a Sunday. She is a pretty girl and lives in a nice large white house. I am going to put lasses on my boots and put on my new coat and hat. Won't I have a gay time though? She plays the piano and sings finely - to tell Jane. I will write her a letter in a few days. How much sugar and coffee have you? If you hain't got much come down and I will give you some. Got a bag full of sugar and a $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel coffee. Who teaches school at the Seminary this summer? Phil, by gosh, come down and help me eat all the sugar and I will give you a shot gun too in the bargain. I will make them rings in a few days and send them to the girls. Love to all the family. Write soon give all the news good afternoon to all.

/s/ Thomas J. Pierce

(15)

25 April 1863

Gallatin

Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside - dear friends,

I received your letter dated April 10 in due time, but did not answer as soon as I otherwise should simply for the want of something new to write for in camp. Unless something happens it is the same story over again to write, and nothing much of any importance has happened since I last wrote only that we have been ordered twice to march in a moments time IF the opportunity needed it. With this exception, there has been nothing else happen until last night or rather this morning. Jacob Ostrander and Smith Griffith were the two principal heros of the affair. It seems that about 1 o'clock this morning the pickets on the two posts in which Jake and Smith were in Command heard a considerable amount of noise in the brush not a great ways from the Post, and heard horses shake their saddle flaps. It induced the boys to go and see what the rife was - so three of them went and found 4 horses with saddles on and 4 men crouched on the ground. They started back for the post again and about the time they got there the Rebs commenced firing on them from three sides. The boys stood up to the ruck and returned the fire boldly. They fired about 150 rounds, but don't know what damage they did to the Rebs. None of our boys got hurt. The object of the Rebels was to take them prisoners, but it being so dark they could not tell where to go for them. By this means, our boys came off safely. There was heavy skirmishing yesterday and is today across the river about 4 miles from here. The Rebs say they are going to have this place before long, but I don't think they will for it is

strongly fortified. Now, I will give you some idea of what this county was and is in relation to government. This county has sent 30 Companies in the Rebel Army, or about 2,800 men. Pretty strong Secesh that, and their cause has a good many sympathizers here yet but the number is getting beautifully less every day. Secesh scrip is not worth one dollar a bushel, while greenback is as good as gold, and all through the CONFEDERACY one dollar of Greenback is worth four of their Scrip. They are all the time quarreling among themselves now, and also on very short allowances of provisions. They all freely say they hope that peace will soon be declared, and they think it will be in a short time. I hope, too, that it may but on honorable terms. The English are getting their eyes open and see how they stand and have concluded to stop all traffic with the so-called CONFEDERACY?

Bully for her! Everything looks fresh and green but one plant and that is called Secesh plant. It grew here for 2 years and throve finely, but somehow this year it does not do very well. It is kind of drying up now and its blossoms are a falling off every day. The health of the Regt. is the best now that it has been since leaving Chicago. Well, I believe I have written all the news only that the 104th came through town the other day and went to NASHVILLE, and are there now. I am much obliged to you for your invitation to dinner when I get home. No more this time. Love to all and tell our folks that I am well. Write soon and give all the news. Direct as before.

/s/ J. Pierce

(16)

10 May 1863
Gallatin

Sister Emily,

I reply to the two letters which I got from you.. Our Company has been out on a 3-day trip on the CUMBERLAND RIVER, to guard a steamboat that was sunk a short time ago. I shop 2 Tennessee hogs and we had plenty of fresh pork all the time we were out there. Six boats went up the River loaded with soldiers and provisions. John Perkins can tell you more about us than I can, so I will not write much about camp-life. There is going to be lots of fruit of all kinds here this summer, and if the war doesn't close before it gets ripe, I am going to have my share. Went a fishing the other day, but did not catch any. Going to try it again. Suppose Orin Findlay has his discharge from the cause of his Country on account of being lame. The devil take all such soldiers. Got lots of them here and hain't of no account in the least. Old GENERAL HOOKER has had a big fight

and done a big thing. Bully for him. OLD ROSY is going to make the fur fly some of these days, and the Rebs will get to their happy land on the double-quick. They can't come the giraffe over him very much. Say, what's the matter, Jake and Smith have gone to Church, and Charley is in his tent asleep, while I scratch these few lines to you. As to coming home this summer, I don't know. If the prospect looks as if we were going to have another winter Campaign, I will come sometime this summer. If it don't, I shan't come until I am discharged for good. It is a hard matter to tell now how long it will last. I hope not long, for it is so hot that I have to keep in the tent all the time. I am glad you got my money, and had a good ride and visit with Miss E. A. Pratt. Should have liked to of been there myself! George Damon has his discharge and will start home tomorrow, and Davis will soon come home, too. His papers are gone for acceptance. I would like you to send me 3 prs. of cotton socks as woolen ones are too warm, and also one pocket silk handkerchief, as I can't get either without paying 3 prices for them. My respects to Miss Hills if I am so fine in her eyes. Love to all of the family. No more this time. Direct as before.

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

(17)

8 June 1863

Lavergne, Tenn.

Sister Emily,

I am about to write a few lines to you once more to let you know where I am and what I am a doing. As you will see by this that we have moved from Gallatin. We left there 1 June, for Nashville; from there to this place. The whole Brigade came in the cars, and I was left at Nashville to come through with the train. So I saw that city all through, and came out the next day to this place. Lavergne is 15 miles from Murfreesboro on the Nashville and Murfreesboro Railroad. It was quite a nice town, but just before the Stone River fight the Rebs came in and burned all the Union houses and that's a great many. So after the battle, our boys came in and burned the whole town down so that there is nothing much left. I suppose that you have heard all of the news from Walt. Goodyear until we left Gallatin. The boys are building shanties for to stay in while here. The weather is nice and the boys from Paw Paw are all well. Smith is smoking now. Good-morning. Write soon. Love to all the family. Oh, one thing I want you to send me some postage stamps. Phil, how are you, by gosh, pretty well Sir? Got any



lasses? I hain't. Come down and eat some beans with us for dinner and some applesauce. All must write soon.

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

(18)

21 June 1863

Lavergne

Brother Tuck,

Emily said that you were not going to write to me anymore for the reason that I did not write you. Now, I thought that I wrote as many lines to you as you wrote to me. But if I hain't, here goes for the balance I owe you. I am well and hearty with the exception of my eyes. They bother me all the time. I don't know as they will get well as long as I am in the Army. But I am going to stay until my time is out unless the war ends sooner. We are looking for old MORGAN to give us a call before long. We got orders from headquarters last night that he would call on us today. We have everything in good order to show him as well as we know how when he comes. He has been only 16 miles from us for 2 or 3 days. But he has too much of a force for us to go after him and leave enough to guard this place while we are gone. So we have to wait for him to come up to us. This Brigade is going to be inspected today by one of Rosecrans Staff. Our Regt. is ready, everything good order, for 3 o'clock this afternoon. And if we pass a good inspection we shall be moved on still farther to the front. We have lots of fun everyday, plenty to eat but not much whisky. We have built a city since we came here all of cedar logs. It hain't quite so nice as Solomon's Temple that was made of cedar, but then it will pass when we hain't got a full hand. Emm says that you are a bugger to talk politics with the copperheads. Just give them hell, by the right flank and make them double-quick! I hear that Doc Braffet is a blue one. We are going to have the Fourth of July down here; I don't know as it will get as far North as that this year or not, as there is not much chance of getting conveyance to carry it up on you. Must write me a bustin' letter from

/s/ Jeff

Sunday after Prayers

June 21, 1863

Well, Emily, I am going to write a few lines to you now in reply to the letter I received from you the other day dated sometime - I don't remember when - no difference about that though. I am glad you think of going somewhere to school this Fall. But if

CHAPTER I

THEORY

THEORY

The first part of the book is devoted to the theory of the subject. It is divided into two main parts: the first part deals with the general principles of the subject, and the second part deals with the special principles of the subject. The first part is divided into three chapters: the first chapter deals with the general principles of the subject, the second chapter deals with the special principles of the subject, and the third chapter deals with the special principles of the subject. The second part is divided into two chapters: the first chapter deals with the special principles of the subject, and the second chapter deals with the special principles of the subject. The first part of the book is devoted to the theory of the subject. It is divided into two main parts: the first part deals with the general principles of the subject, and the second part deals with the special principles of the subject. The first part is divided into three chapters: the first chapter deals with the general principles of the subject, the second chapter deals with the special principles of the subject, and the third chapter deals with the special principles of the subject. The second part is divided into two chapters: the first chapter deals with the special principles of the subject, and the second chapter deals with the special principles of the subject.

THEORY

THEORY

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you go to Bloomington, go to the State Normal School. Don't go to any other although I think it would be better for you to go to Rockford. Be it as it may, it will be an advantage for you to go to some good school, and do your best to excel in everything you undertake. I hope you will get a piano first, but I think it will be a little mixed though. In this, you will find another ring for little Miss Oleva Pierce, but I don't know but it will be too large for the little chub. But she can keep it until she gets big enough to wear it, and she must sing a song for it, too. I am going to make some more some of these days. Sam Warren is somewhere around here. He send word that he was a coming up to see me, today. I see lots of fellows that I used to know. Smith and Charley have gone a swimming. Jake is writing a letter. Charley has been sick for some days but is better now. I suppose Paw Paw is a famous place. Give my regards to Miss Mary Hastings and to Mr. Whiteside's family and all other friends of mine. Love to all the family. No more this time from

Brigadier Branch of Co. E /s/ Jeff Pierce
(Write soon and give all the news)

(19)

2 July 1863
MURFREESBORO.

Bro Everett,

I am going to write a few lines to you to let you know where I am. We came to this place day before yesterday. We marched 17 miles from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and it seemed as though it was one of the hottest days that I ever saw! It was so hot that it would boil a tea kettle in the middle of the road. The boys fell out all of the way over here. Smith, Jake and a good many more fell out of our Co. But old Pierce came through right side-up with ease. When we came within about 5 miles of this place, we saw the effects of THE GREAT BATTLE. Dead horses lay all along the road 4 or 5 in a place. Didn't they smell fine?! It was refreshing to ones nose and all the way could see the graves of the dead. Our men are all nicely buried, but the boys just put the Rebs any place that come handy. In some places they are very thick. Just a little ways from our Camp, lays a Reb that was killed. His face lays out of ground and his long beard lays up to the sun. His nose is up so he can take a good sniff of Union air. Up in the woods, they say, is a Reb sharp-shooter that the boys shot up in a tree and he fell across the limbs. So they left him up there to dry and he is drying all right!! We can pick up cart loads of cannon balls, shells and musket balls - all around here. Sam

Merwin has come over to see us. He looks very bad. He is sick. He says it is fun to shoot at the devils. He has a big knife that he took out of the pocket of a dead Reb. He keeps it to cut off tobacco with. Old Rosy is giving the Rebs fits. He is TAKING THEM BY THOUSANDS, and I have seen some of them - they are sorry looking birds! We expect to start again in a day or two for Shelbyville. The boys are all well. Love to all write soon, direct as before only to Murfreesboro instead of Nashville. Good-bye. It is so hot I can't write anymore.

from your bro

/s/ Jeff

(20)

25 July 1863

Murfreesboro

Sister Emily,

I received your last letter yesterday, very glad to hear from you all once more and to hear that you were all well, but am sorry to hear you was so thin in flesh. ha You must be as big as a little wagon. Think you had a big time the Fourth, especially the going-home part. I should like to be up there and have some of your peas and potatoes, as we have got in a place where such things are a stranger. We have the poorest living now that we have had since we have been in the Army. It has cost me \$10 since I have been here to live. But I am bound to have enough to eat as long as I am in the army. We are going to be paid off again in a few days as the Paymaster is here now. Then I will send home \$40 or \$50 if have an opportunity. If you have sent that butter yet, don't send it until you hear from me again for we are going to leave this place Monday morning. I don't know where we are going - some say one place and some another. It is awful hot here. Yesterday, was the hottest day I ever saw, I think it was so hot that it roasted some beef that we had lying out in the sun and I took some for my supper. What do you think of that, hey? I received a letter from Emma Stakes last week. They were all well. Beck is married and Em is teaching school this summer. I received Jane Adams letter and will answer it in a few days if nothing happens. Jake, Smith and I still live together as we have ever since we have been in the Service. They are much obliged to you for your regards to them. Tell Mrs. Brockway that I know the war will soon be over because we are cleaning them out in every spot and corner and would do it a great deal sooner if such fellows as her son Dick would come down and help us instead of listening to the teachings of that miser-

able copperhead, Valandigham and his puck.. We will have a chance yet to make them quake in their boots. I suppose Tuck has gotten to be quite an amateur on the fiddle.. Tell him to play ''Valandigham's March into Dixie'' for me and I will be much obliged to him. I want Mother to make me a big Custard pie and send it down to me, and I will send some Blackberry in return. Got a lot for my supper. Write soon. Good-afternoon Emm, from

/s/ Jeff Pierce

(21)

4 August 1863

Lavergne

Sister Emily,

Having nothing else to do just now, I thought I should write a few lines to all once more although I have nothing much to write. There has been nothing transpire since I last wrote you worth recording only it is the hottest weather that I ever saw in my life! The health of the Regt. is quite good now. Albert Davis has his discharge papers and will start for home tomorrow. I am send \$50 by him as I think it will be safe as anyway that I can find. Some of you can go and get it for me if he lives to get home with it. I got a letter from George this morning, and he says that they are going to draft them and he think he will have to go. His wife is quite sick so he says. I have nothing more to write about the Army as you can see as well as myself all the movements. That boy has not come yet, I am going to the depot myself. Write soon love to all from bro.

/s/ Jeff

(22)

22 August 1863

Nashville

Dear Mother,

For the first time I sit-down to write a letter to you. We have gotten up to Nashville so far on our return home.. We arrived at this city night before last. How long we shall stay here, we can't tell. Probably for some time. This is a very nice city or was before the war broke out. It is very warm weather here now, but it seems the most like the North of anyplace that I have been in. We can get everything we want from oysters to gingerbread, apples and melons by the wholesale. See, we shall enjoy life while we stay. Our Company, the most of them are on guard now. I do not have to go on guard nor on picket either.

The boys from Paw Paw are all well and are all good soldiers. All of the boys from that place are now commissioned officers but Goodyear and Charley Hatch. We almost rule the Co. as far as we can. I am going to try and get detached from the Regt. if I can for I don't like the Capt. very well, but enough of that. One thing I want to speak about and that is Emily and going to school. I don't want to dictate though but I think she ought to be sent off someplace to school where there is a good school, too, for she can learn most any brand if she takes hold which I think she will - not only for the educational part I would like to have her go off to school but to learn how to make a good appearance in society for you know as well as I that there is no young company at that place for her to go in where she will learn anything much. I know you would like to have your children have as good an education and make as good appearance in society as any bodies else and I think she has done enough for to have a chance to go someplace to learn something of the ways. She will never know much if she always stays in Paw Paw. I think it will be as good a way as you could lay out money to GIVE EACH OF THE CHILDREN A GOOD EDUCATION - one that they would not be ashamed to go anyplace with for it is something that can't be taken from them. So please think about it. You are able to give them the best the country affords, so commence with her and as the rest come up to her age give them the same and you will never regret it, I think. Tell Miss Flora, I can't make that padlock for her now for I cant get the tools to do it with. I will send some as soon as I can. I do not like to work at them much now for my eyes are so bad yet. I will write a letter to Tuck in a few days. Love to the whole family and to you. Write me a letter and a long one, too.

From

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

(23)

28 August 1863

Nashville

Sister Emily,

I received your letter this morning and was glad to hear from you and to hear that all were well at home and am glad to hear that Tuck is getting along so well. You seem to be feasting on good things at home. Well, you have not got any hard tack nor bacon, sow belly, as the boys call it, to eat and we have lots of it, too. There are piles of it piled up in town as large as the old barn and a good many of them. There is more Commissaries

in this city than Don and Bill could haul to Earl in 25 years. So Uncle Samuel's Nephews are not going to starve by any means. I will not write anything about Army movements for you can see them in the papers as well as I can write about them. I am glad that you are going off to school and I think that Rockford is the best place for you to go. Now Emily, try and excel in all that you undertake. Do not let anyone get ahead of you, keep the motto before you, - ''I WILL SUCCEED'', for I should like to hear that when you quit that you came out among the very first scholars of the school you attend. If you will, I will make you a present worth \$25 when I come home. I am going to start for ALABAMA tonight at 2 o'clock and shall be gone 2 or 3 days. Am going to Bridgeport on the Tennessee River. When I return I shall have something new to write about. Will go down on the cars. The weather is cool and nice here now and the nights are very cool. I suppose Davis told you all the news of the Army movements more explicit than I can on paper. I can't think of anything much to write only I was on picket the other day for the first time since we left Frankfort. Smith and Charley are a performing now. Charley is the worst torment in the Co., and is a bothering someone all the time. Jake has hurt his foot and is quite lame. I am the same old Codger yet. The rest of the boys are well. Write and let me know how you get along at school. Love to all the family and a share to you. Direct as usual, excuse this for it is written hurriedly.

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

(24)

29 September 1863

Nashville

Bloomington, Illinois

c/o John Monroe

Sister Emily,

1681267

Having nothing else to do this morning, I thought I would improve the time in answering your which came safe to hand last Thursday. I was very much pleased to find you were so diligent in your studies, and also that you do not get homesick. I should think that you had a full corps of teachers to instruct you, I think you would do well to take up Philosophy. I suppose you have completed Physiology. You say that our Pa gets lonesome and wants to see you. Don't you get that way, for it will be ominous to you as far as study is concerned. If John and wife go to teaching, where will you board the rest of the time? Get some good

place if they go out of town to teach. I have not heard from home since you left only by Jake and Smith getting letters. Amy Vanriper is dead. I feel sorry for Mr. and Mrs. Vanriper. They have a good deal of sorrow to bear, (I think I have some also as Miss E. A. Pratt has gotten married). It is no more than I expected though I will tell you what was the difficulty with us. She pretended to say she heard that I was intemperate and was drunk about half of my time. Now, I have not been drunk since I have been in the Service! I suppose that I did not make quite as much of her as she wanted that I should. I gave her to understand last spring that I did not care a fig whether our engagement was kept or not after she wrote about my getting drunk. It is but very little liquor that I drink although I can get all that I want. Eliza was a fine girl, but there are lots more as good as she and a great deal better looking. I think I shall go and see Hattie Hills when I go home, and that is if she is NOT married too but enough of this. We have been having an awful battle down in Front, I tell you. Lots of them killed on both sides, and a great many wounded. Our boys went down and brought up some of the wounded - about 80 car loads of the slightest wounded. The 104th was in the BATTLE but the 75th was not. I saw Walter Simons when I was down to the Front. He looked as hearty as a gate post. All the boys of our Company are in good health. Jake is lying on his bunk asleep. Smith has gone up town to get some pictures taken - in this you will find one of my 'phizzes'. You will at once see that my eyes are sore as they are squinted up awfully. I am going to send one to our mother also, and one to George. I should like to have you send me one of yours to see how you look. Do you have money you want to use? If you do not let me know and I will send you some. I do not think of anything more to write this time. My respects to Mr. and Mrs. Monroe. No more this time. From bro

/s/ Jeff Pierce

(25)

4 November 1863
Nashville

Dear Parents, Sisters and Brothers,

I received Sister Emily's letter containing the sad news of little Oleva's death this morning. I had heard by the way of John Perkins that one of the little girls was dead, but I did not get the sad intelligence from home until now. I began to think that it must be a mistake until the sad missive came to me. Oh! HOW I SHOULD OF LIKED TO SEEN HER BRIGHT AND SUNNY COUNTENANCE ONCE

MORE BEFORE DEATH PLACED HIS COLD HAND UPON HER! But it is willed otherwise. I have seen the forms of the three little girls twice since Perkins told me about it, and both times they looked so life like that I could almost think they were here, and little Oleva climbed upon my knee and put her arms around my neck and kissed me as she used to do, but when I woke-up in the morning it was all a dream! Although her troubles and sufferings are at an end yet I wish she could of grown up to womanhood for I think she been fair to be something very smart. But her voice will be no more heard in the sports or songs of the children nor will her little chair be filled at the table. "Time is winging us away to our Eternal home ~~and I am sure~~..." ...When I first heard of it, I thought that it was little Flora for she is so poor and frail and every disease takes hold of her. So you must take extra good care of her or I fear the fatal disease will lay its ruthless hands on her and if it does, I fear she can't survive the shock. I will give you a recipe that is said will cure it. It is simple, but may produce the desired effect. It is to take Croton Oil and rub on the throat every little while until it begins to gather up on the outside of the neck in yellow blotches and then it will break out on the outside. It will help keep the patient from strangling. The boys from Paw Paw are all well as common. If you are going to send us some butter and have not, send it labeled to me: Co. E - 105 Ill. Vols. (c-o Capt. Allen). I have nothing more to write this time as grief is with me. Please write soon some of you. My love to all the family.

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

(26)

22 November 1863

Fort Negley

Sister Emily.

I received your letter with the sad and unwelcome news of little Flora's death in it. But I was prepared to hear of it for I thought she would not escape the malady, as every disease that came along took hold of her and I thought it would be a wonder if she escaped it. It must be very lonesome without those two little pets, their songs to enliven the house in its stillness. But there is one consolation their troubles are over now. Though I could wished them to live! Oh, if they could only have lived to of become women. One thing I want if you have their likenesses, I want you get one of each taken from them. Send to me, any artist can take them. I hope when this reaches you it

will find you all well, although I expect to hear in every letter of mother being sick or someone of the rest. How I would come home if I could, but I can't get away. I should like to see you all if I could not do any good at home. I have not wanted to come home so bad since I have been in the Army, as I have for the last 2 weeks. I am coming as soon as I can get a chance. It is fine weather here now and the boys are all well, I believe, as far as I know. I received a letter from George the other day, and received the picture of his wife and him. His wife looks a good deal like Sarah Arnold but is better looking. He wanted you to write to him. Direct to Milks Lane, Pennsylvania, that was all. I will write to Tuck one day this week. The bell is ringing for Church now. Can't you all send me your likenesses? There is nothing new here now so I can't write any news. You must write often as you are at home now. Love to all the family.

/s/ Jeff Pierce

(27)

13 December 1863

Ft. Negley

Sister Emily,

Your letter of the second of this month came safe to hand the 6th December, and in reading it I was very glad to learn that you were all well at the time of your writing. I had expected to hear that some of the rest of the family might be sick. There is nothing new here only we have had two reviews since I last wrote. They came off this last week - one was by Major General Rosecran and the other Major General Hunter. Our Regt. get the praise from both of the Generals. In the Review were 8 Regt. of Infantry, 2 of Cavalry, 3 Battallions. I tell you, it was a fine sight to see them all dressed in clean uniforms and bright arms and polished accouterments and nice packed knapsacks on their backs marching to the music of four splendid brass bands and eight martial bands. Oh! Who would not be a soldier. I would sell a small farm to become a soldier if could not be one any other way. I see by the papers that they are going to draft those in a few days. I hope to God they will draft some of the men in that part that can mention. It would chafe me hugely to see them with their little bean cans on their backs a hoofing it around through the mud with their little 40 rounds of cartridges in their boxes. I wish you to say to Miss Mary Hastings that I do not want to let anything of mine go without pay for it. So, I should like to see her face on paper in Dixie and further tell

her that I heard from Josh Wells the other day and he is all well, also that Bark Banet is in town in convalescent Camp, sick with the rheumatics. Jim Boman is here also. Do you know whether Dr. Warner is in Dixie or whether is at Murfreesboro? I am going down in a few days to see him if he is there. I heard the Doc is or was practicing Denistry there not long ago. The boys are all well, I believe, although I have not been up to Camp for a couple of days. My compliments to Mary and all friends if I have any and if not no matter. Love to all the family.

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

P.S. Don't fail to write soon and all the rest of the family.

(The Last Letter Home)

14 February 1864

Nashville

Sister Emily,

I received your letter yesterday morning and was very much pleased to hear from you all once more. You will see by this that we are all still at Nashville, Tenn. We got all ready to leave - had our tent all struck and everything in readiness to move to Chattanooga, but we still stay on the old camping ground. But I guess that we will go as soon as General Howard comes back. He has gone home on a short leave of absence. The weather is very fine here now. I have been over to Camp and the boys are all well. Smith has gone down to town to see some of the boys that have just come from that place, and are going to join the 75th. They are all well. Say, who lives on Mr. Van-riper's farm? Does Bill Edwards live on his fathers place yet? I have not heard how does Mr. Edwards get along, is he the same as he always was or not? Does old Mr. Holmes still live with Mr. Whiteside yet or not? Bully for J.S. Adams - I would liked to been up there to go to the shiveree. How long is Uncle Siles folks going to stay East? Do you know I can't think of anything more to write this time so will stop and write a few lines to Tuck. My love to all the family and you can take a share yourself.

/s/ Thos. J. Pierce

Bro Everett:

I will now try and write a few lines to you in reply to the let-

ter I got from you for if I don't write I never will get another one, I suppose. I am glad that you are getting along so well as you am and I hope that you will get so by the time I come home that you can go anywhere without a crutch. I did not get to the FRONT quite yet, but wish that we could of gone. I was all cleaned out. I drew 7,000 rations for the March but they were not destined to march, so we ate them at Nashville. I suppose they tasted just as well as they would on a march. I am afraid that it will be a long time before those pictures get here if they come by Fowler. The Regt. drew pay yesterday but I did not get any as I was not properly mustered in so I shall have to wait until the next time, so I will not have that to spend although I was going to send the most of it home. You must write often or once a week to me anyway. (I had oysters for dinner today.) No more this time.

Best wishes.

Remaining your bro.,
/s/ Jeff Pierce

A RECORD OF THE PIERCE FAMILY

Charles Pierce b 3 Feb 1813, Kingston (near Wilkes Barre), Luzerne Co., Pennsylvania; his father native of Connecticut - his mother of Pennsylvania. He worked as a moulder in a foundry in Kingston.

In Feb 1836, he m Catherine Goodwin. They were married by Justice of the Peace Phillips. She died about Sept. 1841, in Luzerne County.

He remarried 10 Feb 1842, to Catharine Sine, b 1814, in New Jersey of which state her parents were natives, believed to have lived in/near Newton, New Jersey. She moved with her parents to Luzerne Co., Pennsylvania, by covered wagon at age of one month.

They continued to live in Kingston until 1845, moving to Paw Paw township, DeKalb Co., Ill., on 17 Sept. that year. Later, in 1856, they moved to Wyoming township, Lee Co., Illinois, on the Gates property but a few rods from the site of the log house built by the old pioneer, David Town, in 1834.

He d 20 Jan 1893, in Chicago, where he had gone to attend to some business matters. Funeral services by Rev. B. A. Dickens with burial in East Paw Paw cemetery beside his wife who preceded him in death on 18 Jan. 1888. Charles Pierce accumulated a large estate from land holdings during his lifetime.

ISSUE:

First marriage-

- i. Thomas Jefferson, b 1836 in Pennsylvania. Died Civil War. Unm.
- ii. Name unknown of one son who died
- iii. Everett "Tuck", b 1843 in Pennsylvania; d 10 Feb 1866 at age 22

Second Marriage-

- iv. Name unknown
- / v. Emily Sarah, b 17 May 1845 in Pennsylvania. m Orton Barnes
- / vi. Philip S., B 8 Oct 1847 in Illinois. m Addie Barringer
- / vii. Mary Ann, b 11 Nov 1840 in Ill. m Henry Coddington
- viii. Florence, b 1852; d between 4-22 Nov 1863 from diptheria during Civil War
- ix. Maria Oleva, b 1855; d between 18 Oct- 4 Nov 1863 from

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
530 SOUTH EAST ASIAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60607

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the
10th inst. and in reply to inform
you that the same has been forwarded
to the proper authorities for their
consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours very truly,
JOHN D. COOPER
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Enclosed for you are two copies
of the report of the Committee on
the proposed new building for the
Department of Chemistry, which
I have the honor to submit to you
for your consideration.

Very respectfully,
JOHN D. COOPER

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diphtheria.

* * * * *

	B	M	D
Emily Sarah Pierce	1845	1868	1908
Orton Adelbert Barnes	1842		1899

For complete list of their descendants, see Barnes Genealogy by Ellen K. Korbitz, Copyright 1956; Barnes Genealogies by G. N. Barnes, Copyright 1904; Cone Family in America by Wm. W. Cone, Copyright 1903.

Philip S. Pierce	1847	1869	1912
Addie E. Barringer	1852		1920
Everett William Pierce			dec.
Mae Addie Pierce Abell, Paw Paw, Ill.			Living
Phillip Filmore Pierce	1879	Unm.	1950
Charles Harrison Pierce, Elgin, Ill.	1882	1913	1952
Idola Mae Cover			
Juanita Pierce Porter			
Blaine Henry Pierce, Genoa, Ill.			Living
Mabel Pierce		no date	Dec.
Robert Godfrey			
Wayne Prentice Pierce, Paw Paw, Ill.			Living
Dorrance Pierce			
Murlin Pierce			
Mary Ann Pierce	1850	1875	dec.
Henry C. Coddington			dec.
Charles J. Coddington, Aurora, Ill.	1877	1911	dec.
Ena Golden, living			
Clay Coddington	1912	1940	
Donna Watson			
Myrtle A. Coddington, Aurora, Ill.	1916	Unm.	
Dean Coddington	1919		
Betty Jean Coddington	1921	1942	
Alva Cook, Jr.			

The first part of the report
 deals with the general situation
 of the country and the
 progress of the work.

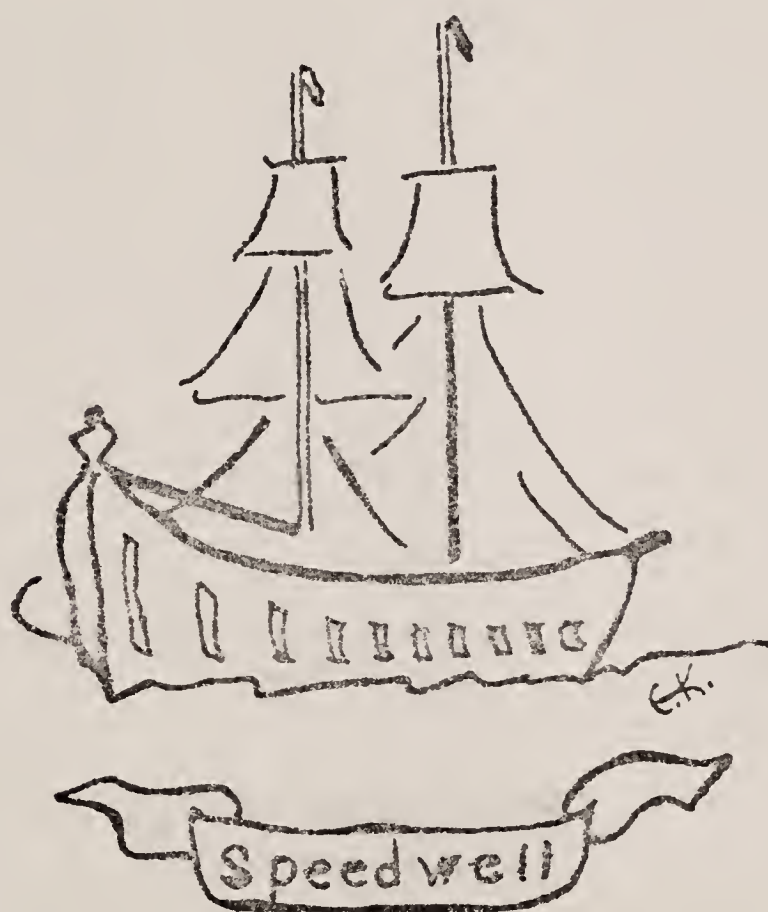
The second part of the report
 deals with the results of the
 work done during the year.
 It is divided into two parts,
 one dealing with the work
 done in the field and the
 other dealing with the work
 done in the laboratory.

The third part of the report
 deals with the conclusions
 reached from the work done
 during the year. It is divided
 into two parts, one dealing
 with the conclusions reached
 from the work done in the
 field and the other dealing
 with the conclusions reached
 from the work done in the
 laboratory.

Jeanette Coddington	1923		
Lester Dillon			
Emma D. Coddington (injured in accident)	1878		1898
Mable P. Coddington	1881		Dec.
Mary L. Coddington (twin)	1884	1906	
Elmer Hoover			1955
Martha L. Coddington (twin)	1884	1906	dec.
Albert Schnovas			dec.
Warren H. Coddington	1887		
Raymond P. Coddington, Oak Park, Ill.	1889	1918	Living
Mary Jane McCarthy			

* * * * *

Derivation of the name, PIERCE: Pierce (English spelling), Pierce Pearce, Pearse, Pears - all derived from Piers, variant of Pehr (Per), a shortened form of Peter. All originate from Greek and Latin - Petrus, meaning a stone.





4100



